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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/688,765	10/15/2003	Wei Yu		1996

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EXAMINER

GUSHI, ROSS N

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2833

DATE MAILED: 05/10/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/688,765	YU, WEI	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Ross N. Gushi	2833	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.

2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.

 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) 15, 16, 18 and 19 is/are rejected.

7) ☒ Claim(s) 17 and 20 is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 October 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

 a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.

 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)

Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10/15/03.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)

Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in —

(1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effect under this subsection of a national application published under section 122(b) only if the international application designating the United States was published under Article 21(2)(a) of such treaty in the English language; or

(2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that a patent shall not be deemed filed in the United States for the purposes of this subsection based on the filing of an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a);

Claim 15, 16, 18, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102() as being anticipated by Howell et al. ("Howell").

Per claim 15, Howell discloses an actuation device comprising a cam pole 31; and an operation lever 32 extending substantially perpendicularly from one end of the cam pole; wherein the actuation device further comprises a spring member 52, and the cam pole comprises a cam 35 engaging with the spring member.

Per claim 16, the spring member comprises a mating portion, and the cam comprises a first surface engaging with the mating portion and a second surface opposite to the mating portion (see figure 5).

Per claim 18, Howell discloses a connector (see figure 1) comprising an insulative base with a plurality of contacts therein, a cover mounted upon the base and moveable relative to the base between opposite open and closed positions along a

direction; an actuation device (cam lever 30) mounted to at least one of said base and said cover, and operably moving said cover between said open and closed positions; and a guiding member 52 mounted to at least one of said base and said cover, and engageable with the actuation device so as to guidably urge said actuation device to be in a stable correct location when said cover is right about to be moved to either said open position or said closed position, thus assuring said cover is correctly located in either said open position or said closed position.

Per claim 19, said actuation device defines a cam 35 pivotal about an axis, and said cam is engaged with the guiding member for urging the actuation device to be in the stable correct location.

Allowable Subject Matter

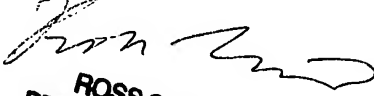
Claims 1-14 are allowable. Regarding claim 1, the prior art does not suggest the connector as claimed, including the combination of all the claimed elements, the combination including an actuation device assembled between the base and the cover and where the actuation device comprises a spring member.

Claims 17, and 20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Regarding claim 17, the prior art does not suggest the connector as claimed, including the combination of all the claimed elements, the combination including that a distance between any point on the first surface and a central axis of rotation of the cam pole is less than that between any point on the second surface and said central axis. Regarding claim 20, the prior art

does not suggest the connector as claimed, including the combination of all the claimed elements, the combination including that the axis extends along the direction.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ross Gushi whose telephone number is (571) 272-2005. If attempts to reach the examiner by phone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley, can be reached at 571-272-2800 extension 33. The phone number for the Group's facsimile is (703) 872-9306.


**ROSS GUSHI
PRIMARY EXAMINER**